

Greenhouse Committee Meeting minutes, January 20, 2015

Present: Alan Christensen, Amy Hilske, Hector Santiago, Scott Sattler, Lance Meinke, Keenan Amundsen, Stephen Wegulo, Matt Anderson. Absent: Anne Streich, Aaron Lorenz, Ed Cahoon

The minutes from the meeting on December 4, 2014 were approved (moved by Meinke, second by Amundsen).

Updates and Announcements:

Amy reported that Samantha Link has been hired as the Beadle Greenhouse manager, Troy Papst has been hired as the NIC Greenhouse manager, and Cole Weston has been hired as a research technician to be split between the AGH and PP greenhouses. A new Beadle assistant manager will need to be hired.

Amy reported that she was waiting for an estimate for removal of old growth chambers. The Beadle and Plant Pathology growth chambers should be ordered soon. Until the old growth chambers are removed in AGH it cannot be determined what the condition of the floor is and an estimate for the new growth chambers cannot be made.

Amy reported that the cost of retrofitting growth chambers in AGH for CO₂ control was approximately \$19,000. The chambers are not as "CO₂ ready" as has been widely thought. Amy will get estimates on adding this feature to the new growth chambers instead, and will compare costs.

The Lemnatech for NIC should be installed soon, possibly by February 2. Shipping delays have been a problem in getting the components here.

Renovations of East Campus greenhouses A and E is mostly finished, but they are still waiting for a few benches to be delivered.

Old Business:

Learning Environment Subcommittee:

Anne and Keenan will circulate their survey and should have results to report by the next meeting.

Committee structure (attached)

It was moved by Amundsen and seconded by Wegulo that the committee chair present the attached document to the ARD dean as our recommendations for the committee structure. Friendly amendments were made. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Additional Infrastructure Needs:

There are unallocated funds from CITB that could be used for additional infrastructure improvements. The committee discussed a number of options. Committee members will consult with their units and Amy will look at needed upgrades and improvements. There is still demand for growth chambers in Plant Pathology, and improvements to the Insectary are overdue. There was also a discussion of BSL-2P+ containment, which is only available in one greenhouse currently. The issue is not just the containment but of the simultaneous use of more than one protocol (from more than one PI) in the same space. In the event a protocol prevents other investigators from using the facility, should the one PI who is using it be charged for the entire space? It is difficult to anticipate this, because the IBC will approve protocols when they are submitted on a case by case basis.

Status of hot water lines to East Campus greenhouses:

A user has asked that the committee look into this issue because the lines are about 30 years old and provide heating for all of the greenhouses in the winter. Amy has looked into the situation. The valves

and pumps are all newer than 30 years; the only thing that is that old is the piping. The pumps are redundant. Amy has convinced Building Systems Maintenance to replace all of the control boxes in the Plant Pathology greenhouses this year, and has raised their awareness of the hot water supply issue. She will pursue the issue of the pipes further with BSM.

Revenue and expense report:

Amy presented the expenses and revenues from July through December 2014. Actual results were close to expected, with a small deficit. It may be possible to leave the rates alone for the next fiscal year, based on this preliminary look. As greenhouses A and E come back on line, and as new growth chambers are installed which will have improved control the revenues should also increase.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan C. Christensen, chair

Committee structure:

Already established:

Seven faculty, consisting of three from Agronomy & Horticulture, one from Biochemistry, one from Biological Sciences, one from Entomology and one from Plant Pathology. At least one of these faculty shall have a PSI affiliation and at least one shall have instructional-greenhouse responsibilities.

Four ad hoc members, one each from ARD, EHS, USDA-ARS and the Greenhouse Director.

Additional provisions:

Three year terms for faculty members, aligned with fiscal year

There is a general expectation that no one will serve more than two consecutive terms

Terms should overlap, especially the three positions from Agronomy & Horticulture

A secretary/chair-elect will be elected in May for the following year, and will serve as chair for the year after that. When there is no secretary/chair-elect, a chair will also be elected in May to serve the following year.

The chair will serve one year.

Departmental representatives will have terms expiring as follows, and every three years thereafter, using a format such as this (two members will have four year terms as a transition to staggered appointments):

Department	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
Agronomy & Horticulture	Aaron				
Agronomy & Horticulture		Keenan			
Agronomy & Horticulture		Anne (Instruction)			
Biochemistry			Ed (PSI)		
Biological Sciences		Alan			
Entomology			Lance		
Plant Pathology				Stephen	